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April 2014



# Mission: Pacific Region of Extremes





### DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY

#### **DLA DISPOSITION SERVICES**

#### WORLD

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FBI SWAT MEMBERS RELY ON SPOTTING SCOPES, TRIPODS AND NIGHT VISION GEAR ON SUPER BOWL SUNDAY IN EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J., IN FEBRUARY. NEW JERSEY-BASED FBI AGENTS SAY THEY HAVE ACQUIRED MORE THAN \$1.5 MILLION IN USED GOODS FROM DLA RECENTLY, INCLUDING ROBOTS AND A VARIETY OF OTHER EQUIPMENT USED TO DETECT AND DEFEAT EXPLOSIVES.

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COVER: A GROUNDCREW MEMBER SIGNALS TO AN EA-18G GROWLER AS IT RETURNS FROM A FLIGHT DURING HEAVY SNOWS AT NAVAL AIR FACILITY MISAWA. PHOTO BY NAVY PETTY OFFICER 1ST CLASS KENNETH TAKADA.







# Everything that comes in front of you ...

DLA Disposition Services Interim Director Col. Richard Bezold will retire from military service in April 2014.

Snake 6 sends:

I'm amazed by the amount of work continuing to head our way – like the post office, it just keeps coming. More amazing than that is how you've taken it all in stride and worked key initiatives as well. You've done a tremendous job taking care of customers and giving extra effort to clear away backlogs. There's still much to do, but I'm confident we'll meet any challenge that comes our way.

Our team in Afghanistan is performing at such a high level that they are praised by both the warfighters they support and the constant parade of senior leaders who visit our sites, knowing we are a key player in retrograde operations.

While that effort continues, we are working on ways to better perform our mission at home and during contingencies.

This spring we'll hold another deployer training exercise following the same general outline as the 2013 exercise, but tweaked to match the training to our recent experiences.

We've acquired the beginning of an air, land and seadeployable package of equipment that people will train with during the spring exercise. Our civilian expeditionary workforce will continue to be critical to the mission as forces draw down in Afghanistan. We'll look at future operations and how we can adjust the use of civilians and military personnel for future contingencies.

Many of you played a role in emergency response during this winter of crazy weather. Law enforcement agencies in states hard hit by winter storms regularly told news reporters that their success came in part because of equipment they received from you through the Law Enforcement Support Office.

Equipment some of you personally handled and issued out to agencies from Long Island, N.Y., to communities in Georgia, Alabama and South Carolina was used to respond to emergencies and rescue people. In one town, small military generators acquired through DLA were set up in neighborhoods where ice had taken out power lines – for a need nobody would have thought of 20 years ago – power to recharge cell phones and other mobile devices.

We'll soon see forward movement on another effort to improve how we execute our mission. That is the plan to combine the talents of people in DLA Distribution and DLA Disposition Services who have the same kind of jobs at places where both activities have operations – also called the D2 initiative. These are our team members who receive, store and issue property



Col. Richard Bezold

DIRECTOR

and the DLA Distribution team members who handle what is called S&D, or storage and distribution – really the same jobs. Combining the talents of these groups will broaden the career path for people in these mirror image jobs and make better use of DLA facilities as well. We'll keep our core excess property and hazardous waste management functions, while Distribution will keep doing its unique core tasks.

Look for regular communication from your leaders on this change, from your first line supervisors to our regional and staff directors to the command office in Battle Creek. This is a good common sense plan, designed to streamline operations, and we will ensure people know as much as possible about it as the details are finalized. Only a small percentage of the team is directly involved, but everyone will be kept informed.

By the time those plans are final I will have completed one

• SEE "SNAKE," PG. L





# Cannon to lead DLA Disposition

ir Force Col. Michael O. Cannon will be the next interim Director of DLA Disposition Services, following the retirement of Army Col. Richard Bezold. He becomes the fifth Air Force officer to lead the organization in its 42-year history.

He may be one of the few directors or commanders of the organization to list a Good Conduct medal with Oak Leaf cluster among his awards and decorations. He enlisted in the Air Force in 1981 and was a technical sergeant with eight years' service when he was commissioned.

In announcing Cannon's appointment, DLA Director Navy Vice Admiral Mark D. Harnitchek said he was "the right leader to continue the excellent and critical work that DLA Disposition Services is performing, both in theater as well as in support of our service customers around the globe."

Before coming to DLA in 2011, he was Deputy Commander of the 521st Air Mobility Operations Group at Naval Station Rota, Spain. Earlier, he commanded three deployed squadrons, one group, and the DLA Support Team in the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility as well as the 727th Air Mobility Squadron at RAF Mildenhall, U.K.

According to the DLA announcement, the new interim director is expected to serve until a new civilian director from the Senior Executive Service is selected.

Ken MacNevin Public Affairs



Col. Michael Cannon

### • "SNAKE," FROM PG. 3

of the busiest, most interesting and shortest assignments of my career. I had the honor of becoming interim director Nov. 26 – but at the same time my planned retirement was finalized.

So I've been on what you might call a compressed time schedule. In recent months I've had the chance to visit some of you where you work and learn firsthand about your dedication and commitment - now I know why so many compliments come our way every day.

But the chance to see many more of you in person is about over, so a note in closing.

For a long time commanders (at least Army commanders) had radio call signs that use a unit nickname and the numeral 6 to designate the commander.

That's where "Snake 6" comes

from. In February, I watched Vice Adm. Harnitchek's Director's Call. He said our work in the AOR was like watching a big snake. Every time something came in front of it, the snake just gobbled it up.

If DLA Disposition Services is like a snake, it is one tough reptile. But thanks to you, we're taking care of every mission our warfighters bring us.

Yes, you have been busy answering the call. And at home or deployed, you have also been taking care of each other while putting in extra effort to meet the growing demand for your services.

During your busy times, or when some tough new challenge pops up, I hope you'll keep in mind how lucky we are. We have the good luck – the honor, really, to serve with and for the men and women of our nation who go in harm's way. I know of no work better than that.

Thank you for your service. It has been an honor to serve with you. Stay

Snake 6, out.

Col. Richard Bezold Director

#### **Our Mission**

DLA DISPOSITION SERVICES SUPPORTS THE WARFIGHTER AND PROTECTS THE PUBLIC BY PROVIDING WORLDWIDE DISPOSAL MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS.







### Misawa site still snowiest air base on Earth

hile many people think of the Pacific region as a warm, tropical place, DLA Disposition Services employees at Misawa, Japan, spent the days around Valentine's Day dealing with what they called "Snowmageddon."

Air Force Master Sqt. Michael Adcock, 35th Operational Support Squadron Weather Flight chief, said Misawa Air Base was "originally forecasted to receive 15 to 18 inches on Saturday afternoon, but as it got closer to time, we were leaning more toward 16 to 24 inches." The base received a record amount of snowfall in a 24-hour period for the month of February at 27.6 inches. Base officials said the last time Misawa experienced more snowfall in that time was more than 60 years ago when they received 43.1 inches March 24, 1952.

For DLA Disposition Services employees, Site Manger Tracy Kyle said the main effect was delayed turn-in appointments as the focus after the three-day weekend from Feb. 15 to 17 was dealing with the built up snowfall. He explained how strong 40-57 mph wind gusts created deep drifts.

Sunday and Monday brought more damaging wind warnings with gusty winds that exceeded 58 mph. Snow blowers, shovels, scoop loaders and more were used for the snow and ice removal that followed after the week-



A DLA CONTRACTOR CLEARS THE SIDEWALKS AFTER A FEBRUARY SNOWSTORM LEFT MORE THAN TWO FEET OF SNOW IN 24 HOURS AT THE MISAWA DISPOSITION SITE. WHILE MANY SITES AROUND THE WORLD HAVE DEALT WITH A DIFFICULT WINTER SEASON, MISAWA RETAINS ITS CROWN AS SNOWIEST AIR BASE IN THE WORLD, HAVING RECEIVED MORE THAN 160 INCHES OF SNOW THROUGH MID-MARCH.

end.

"The base did a tremendous job staying on top of clearing roadways," Kyle said. "Off base was a total different story. Some local roads were untouched for days."

With the base remaining open for operations Kyle said it was "surprisingly, business as usual" for the DLA Disposition Services staff as they were able to carry on without delays or closures. "I've got to believe it was due to having awesome snow and ice removal capabilities with vehicles operating on various shifts," he said.

With a small staff of five employees, Kyle said they did reschedule some early morning appointments to later that afternoon to focus on snow and ice removal operations in and around work areas. "Customers were understanding and appreciative, though, that they were accommodated the same day."

Kyle said work continued into March to remove the 12- to 15-foot snow piles in the DLA Disposition Services compound from the aftermath. "While these massive piles were not impacting our operation at the time, we

need to prepare for Mother Nature's unpredictability," Kyle said.

While Misawa retains the title of "snowiest air force base in the world," DLA Disposition Services employees supporting Alaska's Eielson Air Force Base and Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson can take note that those sites come in second and third. Eielson averages 73.4 inches while Elmendorf-Richardson is close behind with 73.1 inches of snowfall each winter season.

Tim Hoyle Public Affairs





# DLA offers disposal training to Kiwi warfighters

hile it is not unusual for Property Disposal Specialist Michael N. Green to offer instructions on demilitarization, his March 25-28 classes took him quite far from his DLA Training office in Columbus, Ohio.

About 8,351 miles.

In March, Green prepared course materials for classes in U.S. demilitarization requirements that the New Zealand Defence Force requested through the Defense Logistics Agency to help New Zealand forces comply with U.S. disposal regulations.

Green explained that the classes would be geared for tactical level disposal personnel in New Zealand. The course materials will contain information on demilitarization disposal regulations and discuss subjects such as the manual for demilitarization and its content.

There would also be information provided on demilitarization coding, methods and degrees of demilitarization, how to certify that demilitarization is performed in accordance with regulations, Commerce Control List and trade security controls, as well as special requirements for certain property that requires demilitarization.

"The course will include learning activities on the subject matter contained in the course and videos and other presentations," Green said. "I



AFGHAN CHILDREN RACE TO COLLECT EXPENDED BRASS AFTER KIWI TEAMS 1 AND 2 CONDUCT LIVE-FIRE EXERCISES IN BAMYAN PROVINCE, AFGHANISTAN. DLA DISPOSITION SERVICES INSTRUCTOR MICHAEL GREEN TRAVELED TO NEW ZEALAND IN LATE MARCH TO TEACH U.S. DISPOSITION PROCESSES TO NEW ZEALAND DEFENCE FORCE TROOPS.

will also be doing a special presentation to selected NZDF majors and lieutenant colonels on the responsibilities and requirements of appointed certifiers and verifiers"

Green said the officers receiving his presentation would be responsible for appointing personnel as certifiers and verifiers. His presentation to the officers would stress the effects of the improper identification of "demil-required" property and expound on the importance of proper identification and demilitarization of the property.

Green was assisted by Chris Calvert, an NZDF

national disposal officer with the Defence National Command, who coordinated the facilities and location in New Zealand and determined which personnel would attend the class.

Green was also assisted by Jon Mitsuyasu, DLA Disposition Services' deputy director for the Pacific region, who served a liaison for DLA Disposition Services with New Zealand. Green said Mitsuyasu also assisted with demilitarization training, "offering his knowledge and vast experience in demilitarization of and disposal operations, conducting a presentation or two. My appreciation goes out to

him and Nate Barnes, DLA Disposition Services' DEMIL program manager, for making this a DLA team effort."

That effort included Green ordering, preparing training folders, handouts, course reviews and tests along with other training materials. Once obtained, everything had to be packed and shipped to Air Force Base Whenuapai, Auckland, NZ. Green said everything ran smoothly as plans for the training fell into place. He expected the training to be a successful endeavor for all parties involved.

Tim Hoyle Public Affairs





# Sagami staff woos customers with info, cookies

hen NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center Yokosuka conducted its annual Operational Logistics Symposium, DLA employees were there to help explain the disposition support the agency offers.

Employees from DLA Disposition Services at Sagami, Japan, participated in the Feb. 13 event at DLA Distribution at Yokosuka. Navy Lt. Peter J. Rivera, a logistics support officer at the center, said the symposium showed supply teams from the forward deployed naval forces "the latest 'rules and tools' that go into best supporting ships and their crews in the U.S. Navy's largest area of responsibility, as well as the latest products and services available to Navy customers."

Sagami team members used a booth at the symposium to distribute pamphlets, stress balls, and general information about DLA Disposition Services. Bob Davis, environmental chief, took the stage as one of the speakers at the event to offer a briefing about DLA Disposition Services' operations and what they offer DLA customers.

"Edel Quejado also provided homemade cookies, which was a favorite of the customers," Davis said.

"Improve Customer Service" is one of "Big Ideas" DLA Director Navy Vice Admiral Mike Harnitchek promotes to

"significantly improve performance to warfighters, while dramatically decreasing the resources we spend to do our mission." In a CNN iReport story by the center's director of corporate communications, James Tinkham, Okinawa office manager for DHL Global Forwarding, said "We use these events as a platform to show our new products and tell our customers what we can and can't do," said "This was a great forum to interact with our customers."

Air Force Capt. Sarah Kline, the 730th Air Mobility Squadron's ariel port operations officer, said, "Events like this are great for networking and meeting our Navy counterparts. Kline's unit supports the 7th Fleet and DLA, so she believes "it is good to be able to talk with them and make that person to person connection."

Tim Hoyle Public Affairs



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: DLA DISPOSITION SERVICES SAGAMI TEAM MEMBERS TOSHIHARU HOKI, BOB DAVIS, EDEL QUEJADO AND FARON WASHINGTON POSE AT THEIR SITE'S BOOTH AT THE NAVSUP FLEET LOGISTICS CENTER YOKOSUKA'S OPERATIONAL LOGISTICS SYMPOSIUM. EVENTS LIKE THE SYMPOSIUM ALLOW DISPOSITION PERSONNEL AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET FACE-TO-FACE WITH WARFIGHTERS AND ANSWER QUESTIONS THEY MAY HAVE ABOUT HOW DLA CAN ASSIST THEIR MISSION.



DLA DISPOSITION SERVICES SAGAMI ENVIRONMENTAL CHIEF BOB DAVIS BRIEFS CUSTOMERS ON THE AGENCY'S DISPOSAL ABILITIES DURING AN OPERATIONAL LOGISTICS SYMPOSIUM IN YOKOSUKA, JAPAN IN FEBRUARY.





CHUTE REUTE SAVES AIR FORCE L

he U.S. Army's 173rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team recently dropped 900 parachutes on DLA Disposition Services at Vicenza.

1st Lt. Yaritza Matias, platoon leader for the Aerial Delivery Platoon of the 173rd, said the parachutes had been replaced by a newly-fielded parachute system.

Matias said the command turned the parachutes into DLA Disposition Services with the hope that they would get reissued to an organization that could use them. The parachutes were approaching the end of their original 12-year life cycle.

The parachutes quickly found a home with the 22nd Training Squadron at Fairchild Air Force Base, Wash. The squadron conducts combat Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape training at what is commonly referred to as SERE School.

While the school is mandatory for all Air Force aircrew members, it also trains some crew members from the other armed services along with international students.

According to Master Sgt. Odette Johnson of the 22nd Training Squadron, the course is 19 days long, consisting of both classroom instruction and field training.

The parachutes are used by students during the field portion of the course. In an email, Johnson wrote "The parachute material is utilized heavily within our courses. It supports the completion of 120 core objectives for personnel attending SERE training." She said a primary use is for shelter during the field portion of the training.

Johnson said training 4,000 students annually means the training squadron can use all the parachutes it can get its hands on.

The cost of a new chute is \$1,476; by ordering these used parachutes and receiving them for free from DLA Disposition Services, they saved \$3 million.

Jeff Landenberger Public Affairs



TOP: THE AIR FORCE COMBAT SURVIVAL, EVASION, RESISTANCE AND ESCAPE TRAINING SCHOOL RECENTLY REUTILIZED 900 PARACHUTES FOR STUDENTS TO USE IN CONSTRUCTING ARCTIC SHELTERS DURING SKILL PREPARATION COURSES.

RIGHT: AN ARMY 173RD INFANTRY BRIGADE AIRBORNE PARATROOPER RETRIEVES HIS CHUTE AFTER A TRAINING JUMP IN GERMANY. THE 173RD TURNED IN THE 900 PARACHUTES ACQUIRED BY THE AIR FORCE SERE SCHOOL, SAVING THE AIR FORCE \$3 MILLION.





A GUNNER ATTACHED TO MARINE ROTATIONAL FORCE – DARWIN, FIRES AN M240 MACHINE GUN DURING A NIGHT SQUAD-ATTACK EXERCISE IN AUSTRALIA. THE DLA DISPOSITION SERVICES PACIFIC REGION MUST DETERMINE THE WAYS MARINE FORCES NOW TRAINING ON THE CONTINENT MAY TURN TO DLA FOR DISPOSITION SUPPORT.

### Pacific focused on exercises, contingencies

S ince joining the DLA Disposition Services team last October, Marine Lt. Col. Stephanie King has been hard at work, adding disposition experience to her more than 18 years as a supply officer, which includes time spent leading DLA's Pacific Logistics Operations Center before becoming disposal services director for the Pacific.

"There is so much to learn," King said. "I think the most interesting thing is truly gaining an appreciation for how complex this organization is – it is way more than simply taking in property and scrap."

By comparison with other regions, King said Pacific sites conduct much of their own sales and demilitarization instead of sending items to centralized facilities.

"There is no Commercial Venture or Scrap Venture across the International Date Line," she said. "These are truly 'full service sites' out here."

Besides studying the organization of DLA Disposition Services, King and her staff have been watching the changes occur during the "Pacific Pivot" as the structure of U.S. forces changes in the region. King is excited about the work DLA is contributing to that effort. She sees successes for DLA in the way disposition service representatives are getting out to the customers and assist planning efforts for the deactivation of units (which, King explained, is part of the rebalance of forces in the Pacific), as well as the movement of units and the retrograde of equipment from Afghanistan.

"We are co-locating our reps to actually embed them with our customers," King said. "The challenges include assisting the customer with their efforts to 'clean out the attic' as part of the rebalance."

King explained that as units deactivate or relocate, they must "purge their material," which she said puts a strain on DLA resources, "but we are managing by being part of their planning efforts up front."

In a previous DLA Today story, King said she also wanted to ensure personnel across the Pacific provided the right support to the DLA regional commander, "especially when it comes to supporting operational plans and exercises."

Since November, she noted that her personnel have met that goal by engaging in contingencies and exercises across the Pacific.

"We provided hazardous waste disposal support during Operation Damayan in the Philippines and served as part of the exercise's DLA support team during Key Resolve in Korea," King said. "We are working closely with the warfighter to expand upon our hazardous waste disposal efforts in support of these contingencies and exercises and working with Marine forces to determine any potential requirement for hazardous waste disposal in support of the Marine rotational forces in Darwin, Australia."

King wants her workforce to see her as the advocate for what they do on a daily basis in support to the warfighter because she said she believes "supporting the warfighter is the most important thing we do out here in the Pacific.

"Our folks are engaged at all the right levels, and if a customer is unhappy, we will not stop until they are satisfied," she said.

King gave area managers room to support their customers and run day-to-day operations. "But when they need support from 'higher,' then Jon [Mitsuyasu] and I will step in and provide them with that support," King said.

Tim Hoyle Public Affairs





### West sites thanked for continued Mescalero Apache support

n March, Mescalero Apache Tribe officials invited DLA employees from the Holloman and Bliss disposition sites to tour their New Mexico reservation and receive recognition for the agency's support over the past decade.

Terry Dale and Bill Getchel from Holloman, and Ray Menendez and Javier Garza, from Bliss, met with tribal representatives during a trip that included visits to a number of home construction sites where more than 100 excess military modular duplex housing units from Fort Bliss will slowly help alleviate the critical housing shortage tribal members currently face.

Mike Montoya, the local manager of a tribal fish hatchery that supplies tens of thousands of fish to more than a dozen regional tribes each year, has served as the tribe's primary excess item screener for more than a decade, and said the tribal fish hatchery would have had to close down if not for the equipment and support of organizations like DLA.

"I have worked with Mike Montoya for over 10 years now, and in that time I have witnessed firsthand his dedication and passion to improve the conditions on the Mescalero Apache Reservation," Dale, the Holloman site manager, said, noting that it was not uncommon to see Montoya at her site on an almost-weekly basis, along with his hatchery volunteers and dog in tow. "He has reutilized property from DLA all the way from a 90-ton crane to semi-trailers, vans and trucks, construction materials, kitchen equipment, generators, pumps, containers and on and on."

Bliss' Garza said the same, citing recent Mescalero requisitions of wreckers, 5-ton trucks and heavy equipment transporters.

As for the housing units, it will take some time to get them all removed from their current locations at Bliss and set up for tribal residency. But according to Mescalero housing director Alvin Benally, as reported by the local Ruidoso News, the units will dramatically improve tribal quality of life.

"We have a housing waiting list for 500 families," Benally said. "Some have been waiting for housing as long as 20 years. It is not uncommon for some residences to have 12 to 15 individuals across three generations living under the same roof."

Jake Joy Public Affairs **TOP:** AMERICORPS VOLUNTEERS HELP LOAD MODULAR HOME PIECES AT FORT BLISS. THE MODULAR HOMES WERE BOUND FOR THE MESCALERO APACHE RESERVATION IN THE MOUNTAINS OF CENTRAL NEW MEXICO.

**BOTTOM:** A MODULAR DUPLEX, ONCE USED AS BARRACKS FOR SOLDIER TRAINING, BEGINS ITS JOURNEY TOWARD MESCALERO, NEW MEXICO. MESCALERO TRIBE OFFICIALS SAID THE ACQUISITION OF THE MODULAR HOMES WOULD ALLOW SOME TRIBAL MEMBERS TO HAVE SINGLE FAMILY DWELLINGS FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THEIR LIVES.

**MIDDLE**: A MODULAR HOME SITS ON A PREPARED FOUNDATION AT THE MESCALERO APACHE RESERVATION.







# Excess bags offer winter relief to homeless vets

ith the United States hit with some of its worst winter weather in years and facing a growing population of homeless vets, DLA Disposition Services employees in Japan recently offered some help.

The Misawa team engaged the Air Force's 35th Fighter Wing, Individual Equipment Issue element, to receive more than 1,200 extreme cold weather sleeping bags that seemed to be a good fit for the problem.

"The bags are part of a mobility bag force replacement with a newer model," said Tracy Kyle, Misawa's site manager. "All of the bags were new in the box or had been professionally cleaned."

The Misawa team worked with Kevin O'Connell from Veterans Industries to make the bags available. Kyle said O'Connell has requisitioned the first 545 bags and will advise if any more are needed.

The Department of Veteran's Affairs has worked with Veterans Industries and businesses since 1993 to help veterans as they return to the workforce. O'Connell said the sleeping bags were received at the Operation New Hope warehouse located in Hillsborough, N.J. From there, he explained that they will be distributed for future homeless veteran stand down events throughout the country.

"We have over 225 stand downs annually, and the extreme cold weather sleeping bags are a high demand item, especially in the northern states," O'Connell said.

"It uplifts my spirits knowing our efforts can uplift someone else's," Kyle said. "We will continue to be proactive in finding a home for the rest of the turn-in to limit the impact on our storage area."

> Tim Hoyle Public Affairs



HUNDREDS OF HOMELESS VETERANS LINE UP TO RECEIVE FREE SERVICES AND GOODS DURING A VETERANS STAND DOWN EVENT SPONSORED BY THE NATIONAL VETERANS OUTREACH PROGRAM IN SAN ANTONIO. AMONG THE HIGH-DEMAND GOODS PROVIDED ARE EXCESS MILITARY EXTREME COLD WEATHER SLEEPING BAGS RECEIVED FROM DLA.



DLA DISPOSITION SERVICES STAFF IN MISAWA, JAPAN, PREPARE MORE THAN 500 SLEEPING BAGS FOR SHIPMENT TO NEW JERSEY. OFFICIALS SAY THE BAGS ARE A HIGH DEMAND ITEM DURING MORE THAN 225 ANNUAL STAND DOWN EVENTS, ESPECIALLY IN COLDER NORTHERN STATES.





THE "JAPAN SCRAP TEAM," MADE UP OF PACIFIC-BASED EMPLOYEES, RECENTLY RECEIVED A DLA DIRECTOR'S STRATEGIC Goals Award for fiscal 2014. The team DECREASED OPERATING COSTS AND **IMPROVED PROCESSES AND** PRODUCTIVITY WHILE REDUCING OPERATING COSTS \$220,000 BY CONTINUALLY MARKETING NEGATIVE COM-MODITY ITEMS AND TURNING FORMER COSTS INTO FINANCIAL GAINS. IN THIS PHOTO, DEMILITARIZATION AND SCRAPPING OF USS GUARDIAN (MCM-5) YIELDED \$30,000. THE AWARD CITATION SAID "THE ABILITY TO DEFRAY OR OFFSET COSTS FOR DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY WITH NO MARKET VALUE HELPS REDUCE SERVICE LEVEL BILLING FOR ABANDONMENT AND DISPOSAL CHARGES TO MAJCOMS AND, IN TURN, REDUCES FUNDING REQUIREMENTS **NECESSARY FOR DLA DISPOSITION** SERVICES TO CARRY OUT THE DISPOSAL MISSION."



DLA PHOTO

## Flexibility in the face of inevitable change

DLA is a Transformative Agency - no longer static or stove-piped. More than ever before, we need to resist our tendency toward comfort and accept the sometimes irritable nature of change. Things that move and shift and go off course may cause us to be uncomfortable during the ride, but generally lead us to a better path and a better future.

The leadership blog **Humanergy** posted the following April 10, 2013:

"Great teams are the drivers of amazing results, as reinforced by Harvard Business Review blogger Judith A. Ross in **Make Your Good Team Great**. Research shows that the qualities that drive top team performance can be described as group Emotional Intelligence. In other words, these teams know how to recognize and

manage the emotions of their members.

Ms. Ross recommends making time for the team to connect both inter-personally and around their strengths. This will help them appreciate each other's contributions and tap each person's strengths. She also emphasizes the importance of teams recognizing and managing the emotions that are sure to arise - the conflicts and the joys."

In the midst of your own ambiguity, seek challenges and opportunities. The workplace is always evolving. Tap into your threshold for tolerating change. Today, your ability to adapt is crucial. Question your assumptions. Are they true today? Challenge work practices. Are they logical today? Resist thinking "different" means wrong. Does it?

Search out new, improved, and better business practices and rules. Consider

the most important factors in the process. Look at the trends within society. Increase your understanding and acceptance of opposing views. With acceptance comes increased respect.

Challenge yourself. Take time to understand someone or something difficult. Ask yourself: How can I best contribute my talent and skills? Life experience changes us. Our work culture can promote achievable outcomes if everyone contributes.

Solutions evolve. Every new path begins with a first step. Barefoot and vulnerable, just imagine how good the fresh new grass feels on that very first step! Together, Everyone Achieves More (TEAM).

Commentary by

Wendy Kropp, DLA Disposition Services, and Richard Proulx, DLA Logistics Information Svcs.





# 2014 culture survey offers formula for success







he Defense Logistics Agency is about to offer employees a chance to make a difference. What are we doing well? What could be improved? Are we doing the right things for our customers?

Later this Spring, Denison Consulting will once again be the independent contractor administering the anonymous Culture Survey. The survey is important because our mission is important. DLA has used this type of voluntary survey since 2003. Insights from the survey allow our leadership to reshape and improve action plans.

Be open, fair and honest when completing the survey. The more people who take part in the survey, the more accurate the results are. When you respond to survey questions, please answer based on how you view things within your work group at your specific location.

Is the survey really confidential? Yes. Denison uses our

email addresses to conduct and track the survey, but their network and database area are separate from DLA. Individual results do not get shared. They can't disclose who completed a survey. This means you have total confidentiality.

The last survey was taken in 2012. DLA Disposition Services used your feedback to continue to focus on leadership, communication, trust, accountability and the disruptions caused by constant priority changes known as "churn."

Now is your opportunity to let us know how successful we were. In a time where DLA Disposition Services is faced with an increasingly challenging fiscal environment, your voice is even more important! For more information on the DLA Culture Survey, please contact your local Culture Action Team member.

Michael McCarthy Culture Champion

### **DLA Disposition Services Culture Action Team**

East - Beth Keen (Ford)

Mid-America - Anita McSwane

West - Ben White, Lynn Silva

**Pacific - Vernessa Encarnacion** 

Central - Open

**Europe - Mike Hoskinson** 

J3 - Gary Lett

J4 - Sherry Low, Carlos Torres

J5 - Nick Lysdahl, Mike Johnson

J7 - Tina Watson

J8 - Michel Vincent

D - Angie Wilbur

Comm. Sync - Kathy Hausknecht

**Culture Champion - Michael McCarthy** 



# Pacific demil pros help Air Force crunch drowned jet

eamwork between DLA Disposition Services employees at Misawa, Japan, and the Air Force helped the remnants of an F-16C Falcon fighter jet meet their proper end after the plane crashed into the Pacific Ocean during July 2012 while the aircraft was en route to Alaska from Misawa.

According to an Air Force press release, the pilot ejected safely and was retrieved safely from the ocean by combined Japanese and U.S. rescuers. He had spent about six hours in the water roughly 200 miles northeast of Hokkaido, Japan's northernmost island. His plane was part of a group of four from Misawa's 14th Fighter Squadron. The pilots were on their way to Alaska for Red Flag training when the mishap

Services employees later accepted control in July 2013, after the investigation into the crash was completed. The investigation report cited an "uncommanded closure of the main fuel shutoff valve" as the reason why fuel stopped reaching the engine. From there bits and pieces began a new journey toward their disposal solution.

Working with Air Force Master Sgt. Larry Williams, Misawa's 35th Maintenance Operations Squadron avionics

MISAWA SITE PERSONNEL RECEIVED 6,300 POUNDS OF F-16C DEBRIS RETRIEVED FROM THE OCEAN FLOOR THAT REQUIRED DEMILITARIZATION.

chief, DLA Disposition Services employees helped the Air Force as it reclaimed 6,300 pounds of materials from the ocean floor, which were originally valued at more than \$5.4 million.

"The F-16 airframe was found completely demolished," said Tracy Kyle, DLA Disposition Services site manager at Misawa. "Once the investigation was completed and the aircraft debris was released from legal, the debris

was prepared for turn in to DLA Disposition Services."

Kyle explained that selected items

such as salvageable, classified materials were removed from the debris and retained by the Air Force. "There were no useable parts turned in," he said. While in DLA's possession, Kyle said demilitarization was performed, certified and verified on all required items before their release as scrap materials.

Williams explained that sorting out what needed to be kept and what should be turned in to DLA involved eight different Air Force entities from the Wing Safety office to Pacific Air Forces headquarters and more were involved in the process.

"They were highly motivated and ready to take on this task," Williams said. "The only problem was arranging work schedules."

He also praised the DLA Disposition Services staff for resolving questions and keeping him "heading in the right direction ... which helped the process keep moving."

> Tim Hoyle Public Affairs



F-16C AIRCRAFT ITEMS LIKE THIS ENGINE REQUIRE DEMILITARIZATION AND CERTIFICATION. DLA SITE STAFF SAID NO USABLE PARTS WERE TURNED IN. THE AIR FORCE RETAINED ALL CLASSIFIED AND USABLE ITEMS BEFORE TURNING THE AIRCRAFT PARTS OVER TO DLA FOR DESTRUCTION.

occurred.

The wreckage was relocated to Misawa in Aug. 2012, where DLA Disposition

LA PHOTOS



### Congratulations to all our exceptional performers!

### **Superior Civilian** Service Award

### **DLA Strategic Award**

### "Japan Scrap Team"

PETER BERONJA MAMORU SUGINOHARA

LUIS GUZMAN

PARRY MILLER

JOSE LOPEZ-RIVERA

GERALDINE SYKES

ESTEBAN JIMENEZ

JARED EBERSOLE RITSUKO SATO

MICHELLE WOODEN MICHAEL KELLY

ROBERT CUNNINGHAM

CHRISTINE DUSTIN

PHILLIP COWARD

LATANYA CALLAHAN

ROBERT BROWNE

LESTER LEITH

TIMOTHY DAUTEN

F7FKTFL GRAHAM

CHARLES VONK JR

LORENZO LOPEZ

ARTHUR WEISH

CRAIG BANKS

FRIC MILLS

TRACY KYLE

NARUHITO BABA

Toshiyuki Sato

NOBUHIRO MIYAJIMA

TAKASHI SAITO

DAVID MINER

CHRIS HARRIS

FARON WASHINGTON

HIROSHI SUZUKI

WATARU INQUE

HIROSHI GUSHIKEN

TAKASHI SHIMABUKURO

SHIMOJI TSUNEHIDE

AKIO KIYUNA

### **Employees** Quarter

WILLIAM MEEHAN (MOLESWORTH)

> JASON BIRD (HILL)

JUANETTA LANCASTER (LEWIS)

> LEAH BAILEY (BARSTOW)

FILIZ SAHIN (INCIRLIK)

JAVIER GARZA (SASEBO)

JON MACHACEK (KAISERSLAUTERN)

JODI CULLINGFORD (J42)

MARITESS CLARK (PENDLETON)

VIRGINIA AVILES

(SAN JOAQUIN)

Awards

Time In Service

DANIEL SCHUEMANN

BRIAN DOMBROWSKI

ERIC HILINSKI

K-MARIE LOGAN

DON HELLE

CATHERINE BEDNAR

JOSEPH BEDNAR

Doug Bresson

JAMES PLUCINSKI

MARY MOSBY

WALTER PAYNE

MARY CAMPBELL

Donation Screening 27 MAR ---- 31 MAR

DAY DOD & SPECIAL **PROGRAMS** 





My name is: Terry Dale

1 am: Holloman Site Manager, 23 years with DLA

Describe your job in a sentence: I support the warfighter, finding the right property for the right customer through site Invarious and anything on survey of the restriction, wish lists and anything visits, phone calls, customer interaction, wish lists and anything

What's the best thing about working for DLA? The people are so grateful. When you find the property they are I'vie peuplie ure su gruceju. vyviev you juvu crie prupercy criey ure DLA looking for and it works out - their gratitude is extreme. The looking for and it works out - their gratitude is extreme. working for now in works one - wienr granders get needed equipment and gives me the tools to help customers of the tools else I can use. Supplies at no cost! With today's budget cuts, this is more suppression than ever, and their gratitude is addictive. You want to important than ever, Nelp out more and more. DLA is a win-win organization, people

nelping people.



When the earthquake and tsunami hit Japan Fondest memories on the job? in 2011, DLA put out a call for help. I started contacting customers, and in one week, we were able to gather a semi load of bedding, towels, clothing and supplies to send over. Each week brings a different challenge or Project and the job is ever changing, but one thing is for sure ... it is never boring.